rates between carriers of different countries is usually done at the level of operations of these services on either side. In so far as the accounting rate with the US operators in concerned, commercial negotiations are going on between VSMN, the Indian Carrier and their counterparts in the US for settlement of the accounting rate for the financial year 1997-98 and onwards.

Printing of money order and acknowledgement forms

1383. DR. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of printing orders in respect or money order forms and A.D. Cards *etc.* pending with the Government of India Presses at Koratty, Aligarh and Nasik separately as on 31st March, 1999;

(b) the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the reasons for increasing size of forms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Sir, the volume of printing orders in respect of MO Forms & AD Cards pending with Govt, of India Presses at Koratty, Aligarh and Nasik as on 31.3.98 is as under:—

Name of Press	MO Forms	AD Cards
(i) Koratty	85,800 Pads	Nil
(ii) Aligarh	18,85,000 Pads	29,82,500
(iii) Nasik	6,43,920 Pads	3,35,13,500

(b) (i) Annual production capacity of the Presses is getting reduced every year due to natural wear and tear of the machinery.

(ii) Short supply of electricity by the State Electricity Board resulting in machines remaining idle.

(iii) These Presses also undertake printing jobs of other Ministries/Departments on priority basis. Due to this, all printing work cannot be completed strictly on first come first serve basis.

(c) Department of Post has not increased the size of MO & AD Forms.

Applications pending for telephone connections in Faridabad

1384. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of applications for telephone connections are pending in Faridabad, Haryana;

(b) the present status of disposal of such applications;

(c) the reasons for the huge pendency; and

(d) by what time all the pending applications, especially those of the residents of Sector 10 will be disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Present status of applications under different categories of registration and release date thereof for telephone exchanges of Faridabad is given in the Statement. *(See* below)

(c) Pendency/delay has been due to the non-receipt of Complete Exchange Equipment in time.

(d) 15,000 lines are being added in Faridabad in the current year 1998-99. This will clear most of the pending applications in Faridabad and all pending applications of Sector 10.